

*WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL was held Monday, August 28, 2017, to meet with representatives of Doctors Community Hospital.*

*Mayor Jordan started the meeting at 8:05 p.m. The meeting was held in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Building.*

*PRESENT WERE: Councilmembers Judith F. Davis, Leta M. Mach, Konrad E. Herling, Silke I. Pope, Rodney M. Roberts and Mayor Emmett V. Jordan. Councilmember Edward V. J. Putens was absent.*

*STAFF PRESENT WERE: Nicole Ard, City Manager; and Shaniya Lashley-Mullen, Administrative Assistant.*

*ALSO PRESENT WERE: Paul R. Grenaldo, Chief Operating Officer Executive Management for Doctors Community Hospital; Dr. Darlene Jean-Pierre, Doctor at Doctor Community Hospital; Bill Orleans; and Jim Giese, Greenbelt News Review.*

*Mayor Jordan stated it was important to sit down with one of the largest employers in this region of Prince George's County. Mayor Jordan wanted to know what was new at the hospital and how the City could enhance its relationship with Doctors Community Hospital.*

*Mr. Paul Grenaldo advised he has been working at Doctors Community Hospital for seven years. Mr. Grenaldo stated he wanted to forge a better relationship with the City and invited Mayor Jordan to the hospital to speak with the management team. Mr. Grenaldo commented that the hospital has 1,500 employees and 100 of them reside in the City of Greenbelt. The hospital has focused on free health screenings for adults, and has been named for a second year in a row a "High Performing Hospital" for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) by U.S. News & World Report. The State of Maryland designated Doctors Community Hospital as a Stroke Center for Prince George's County. The hospital also has been selected to contract with Kaiser Permanente.*

*Dr. Darlene Jean-Pierre advised she has been working at Doctors Community Hospital for a year. She and her family moved to Greenbelt Station because of the commute to her job and the access to the Metro from the Stream Valley Trail. Dr. Jean-Pierre advised there are a ton of resources in the City and she has been to numerous work sessions.*

*Mr. Grenaldo also advised the hospital has a mobile van on the road every day and will do sessions at the Farmers Market. The hospital has primary care and orthopedic care at the Bowie location, primary care in Hyattsville, primary care and orthopedic in Camp Springs and will be opening soon an office in Temple Hills. The hospital continues partnering with Catholic Charities. The Temple Hills location will offer a dental clinic, primary care, jobs retraining and social services.*

*Mr. Grenaldo advised the biggest challenge is access to capital, since the hospital is a stand alone, nonprofit hospital. Profits earned by the hospital are reinvested into the hospital.*

*Mayor Jordan stated there was a capital campaign last year for breast cancer image equipment. He asked if the hospital has other plans or construction coming up. Mr. Grenaldo advised the hospital applied for sixteen behavioral health beds. The old Magnolia Nursing Home could be*

*converted into a stand alone behavioral health hospital for both inpatients and outpatients.*

*Mr. Grenaldo answered questions from Ms. Davis and Ms. Pope by stating the hospital will have a voluntary program focusing on adults. The hospitals recognize the need for mental health services. Currently the hospital only has one psychiatrist on staff.*

*Mr. Grenaldo answered Mr. Herling's question stating the hospital doesn't perform heart surgery. Other cardio procedures are offered through the outpatient service to keep the patients healthy so they wouldn't need to have heart surgery.*

*Mr. Herling asked what percentage of the patients were from Prince George's County. Mr. Grenaldo stated 85%. In a two year period, the hospital went from 40,000 emergency room visit patients to 60,000 emergency room visit patients. There isn't a long wait anymore.*

*Mr. Roberts asked who would be eligible to get services at the behavioral health hospital. Mr. Grenaldo answered a lot of the patients would access the services through the emergency room, and then they would service anyone whose insurance provider contracts with Doctors Community Hospital.*

*Ms. Davis asked if there were days or nights when the hospital cannot accept additional patients because the beds are full. Mr. Grenaldo stated that redirecting patients is handled by Prince George's County. The hospital reports the status to Prince George's County and the County makes that determination. The hospital hasn't been on reroute for some time now.*

*Mr. Grenaldo stated the hospital just celebrated a 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary and for the past 25 years, Doctors has been a nonprofit hospital.*

*Mr. Herling asked how veterans can get services in the northern half of Prince George's County like in the southern half. Mr. Grenaldo answered the hospital has reached out and let the County know the hospital is open to the possibility.*

*Mayor Jordan asked how the uncertainty of the Affordable Care Act affects the hospital's relationship with the insurance companies. Mr. Grenaldo advised when the Affordable Care Act first passed, the hospital tried to create medical homes on the outpatient side that were affordable and accessible. Mr. Grenaldo stated they have seen a decrease in readmission by 30% with sickle cell patients. Mr. Grenaldo also stated that Doctors Community Hospital was one of the first hospitals in the area to tackle the opioid crisis. Helping people stay healthy, the hospital was recognized by Care First and the State of Maryland for being one of the healthiest work places in the area.*

*Mayor Jordan asked if the uncertainty of the Affordable Care Act was driving up the cost of service. Mr. Grenaldo answered he doesn't think it's driving the cost up; it just has the hospital in a hold pattern. The first commitment was to orthopedics and all the orthopedic clinics had been renovated except the one Bowie.*

*Mr. Herling asked about transportation services with Metro. Mr. Grenaldo said the hospital is committed to continue to provide free parking at the hospital. Dr. Jean-Pierre stated that Metro services the hospital and the other locations.*

*Mayor Jordan asked what the City can do to help its citizens to be healthier. Mr. Grenaldo answered by stating continuation of promoting healthier choices like the farmers market. The hospital provides a free gym to their employees and promotes free health screenings. Mayor Jordan said the vending machines have healthier choices and the employees are encouraged to take time during their lunch break to take a walk.*

*Ms. Pope suggested that Doctors Community Hospital partner with Prince George's County School Board. Mr. Grenaldo stated they reached out to Dr. Maxwell when they heard the school board was having a hard time filling all the nursing positions. Mr. Grenaldo stated they will be opening a tele-medicine in the Safeway in Bowie that will be connecting back to the emergency room at the hospital. If it's successful, they will be looking to offer the program in all of the Safeways in the County.*

*Mayor Jordan asked if the hospital needs volunteers and how many they currently have. Mr. Grenaldo said they have close to 400 volunteers between the youth and adult programs and they always need volunteers.*

*Bill Orleans asked what services Catholic Charities offers and if they were using any part of the old rehab center for hospice care. Mr. Grenaldo advised they offer job retraining, family counseling, and social services. Catholic Charities is also using the old rehab center for hospice care. Mr. Grenaldo provided Mr. Orleans with answers to his questions referring to the procedures of Doctors Community Hospital, hospice care, and rehab.*

*Mr. Grenaldo provided Mr. Giese with answers to his question referring to the difference between being admitted into the hospital through the emergency room and being held for just observations and not being admitted.*

*Information Items – Several informational items were discussed.*

*Mayor Pro Tem Davis gave reports on Looking Forward Metropolitan Washington in 2040 and a report from Nina Albert, Director of Real Estate and Parking, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.*

*Councilmember Herling and Mayor Jordan gave a report on the ground breaking of the Purple Line.*

*The meeting ended at 9:50 p.m.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Shaniya Lashley-Mullen  
Administrative Assistant*